



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

The special thanks of the Academy were voted to Captain Portlock for his large donation of Irish Antiquities.

---

February 8, 1841.

SIR WM. R. HAMILTON, LL.D., President, in the Chair.

Mr. J. Huband Smith submitted to the inspection of the Academy the sword and other iron weapons, brass mantle-pin, &c., with which he had been favoured by the Commander of the Forces, and which were discovered, with a human skeleton, at Kilmainham some years since. He further produced a still more perfect iron sword, which was also most obligingly lent to him by Captain Hort of the Royal Hospital. This, too, had been found about eight years ago in the same vicinity, and under similar circumstances with the weapons above mentioned.

The remarkable similarity of these, and all the incidents of the interments which they appear to have accompanied, with the remains found in the county of Antrim, described in the paper which Mr. Smith read before the Academy, on the 25th of January, as well as with the engraving and description of the Gaulish (Celtic) weapons, the account of which by M. Mongez, Keeper of the Museum of St. Genevieve at Paris, he had also on that occasion alluded to, together with the invariable discovery of bronze, or brass ornaments, unquestionably Celtic, in connexion with them, induced Mr. Smith to adhere to his opinion, that all these various remains were to be referred to people of Celtic race.

If this conclusion be just, the inference would seem to follow, that in the skeletons accompanying these weapons, &c., an opportunity is offered to the student of ethnography

and the natural history of the human family, of investigating the characteristics of the pure Celtic type of a considerable branch of the Caucasian variety of man.

---

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin communicated some observations "On the Leafing of Plants."

It is well known that there is a diversity in the times of leafing and shedding in individual trees of the same species; e. g. hawthorn, sycamore, horse-chesnut, beech, &c., sometimes as much as a fortnight; and the earliest in leaf are also the earliest shed, the same individuals keeping their time every year. Hence the question, whether this diversity arises from the "separable accidents" of soil, situation, &c., or whether from "inseparable accidents" which constitute what physiologists call *varieties*?

An experiment was tried by grafting an early hawthorn on a late, and *vice versa*. The scions kept their times (about a fortnight's difference) as if on their own stocks; thus proving that it was a case of "*seedling variety*."

Many other such varieties are known, not only of apples, peaches, &c., but of wild trees also, differing in shape of leaf, form of growth, colour and size of fruit, &c., and also *time of ripening*. It was, therefore, to be expected that there should be the like, in respect of times of leafing.

This may throw some light on the question respecting "*acclimating*." It may be, that species may be brought to bear climates originally ill-suited,—not by any especial virtue in the seeds *ripened in any particular climate*, but—by multiplying seedlings, a few of which, out of multitudes, may have qualities suited to this or that country, e. g. some to cold, some to drought, some to wet, &c.

In some cases, a plant's beginning to vegetate later may secure it from spring frosts, which would destroy a precocious variety; in others, earlier flowering may enable a tree to ripen fruit in a climate in which a later would be useless, &c.